

2559

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -6 PM 2:19

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement
Attn; Ms. Mary Bender
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
2301 North Cameron St
Harrisburgh, Pa. 17110-9408

Dear Ms. Bender,

My name is Charlene Blittersdorf and I live in Kennett Square. I have owned Yorkshire terriers for many years. Occasionally I have one or two litters of puppies a year. Since yorkies are a small breed there are not many puppies in a litter, sometimes only one. My dogs are part of the family and have the run of the house. I own 5 adults. My entire yard is fenced in with stockade fence so that they may go out and play as often as they want. I also have a very large covered patio that they can use when the weather is bad. My puppies are raised in a secluded area that is very warm and quiet. Away from the other dogs and household distractions. When they are old enough they are given lots of love and attention so that they will be happy healthy puppies.

I am writing to comment on the proposed amendments to the Pennsylvania dog law regulations issued on December 16, 2006. I believe that inhumane and substandard kennel conditions should not be tolerated, but I do not agree that most of the proposed regulatory changes are needed, or would necessarily have a beneficial outcome if adopted. Many are impractical, excessively burdensome and costly, unenforceable, and will not improve the quality of life for dogs in these kennels.

Smaller breeders and dog owners who maintain their dogs in their own residential premises but are covered by the Pennsylvania dog law, who provide care and conditions far superior to those required by the proposed new standard, would be unable to comply with the rigid commercial kennel standards.

The record keeping requirements with respect to exercise, cleaning and other aspects of kennel management are excessively burdensome and serve no useful purpose, as it would be impossible to verify their accuracy in all but the most egregious circumstances. Such circumstances already violate existing regulations.

I urge that this proposal be withdrawn.

Sincerely,


Charlene Blittersdorf

no address